Araniyar Project and discussion with the Deputy Chief Minister of Andhra State with regard to the execution of the Project which was stopped consequent on the separation of the Andhra State; and

(b) if so, the decisions arrived at?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) No.

" (b) Does not arise."

* 1776 Q.—SRI K. VINAYAKAM (on behalf of Sri M. Dharmalingam) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Goverment have any proposal to raise the height of the Suratapalli anicut in Araniyar Project; and

(b) if so, the height to which it is proposed to be raised and the amount estimated to be spent?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) No.

" (b) Does not arise."

* 1777 Q.—SRI K. VINAYAKAM (on behalf of Sri M. Dharmalingam) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) how many persons are working in the Araniyar Project in Chingleput district;

(b) whether any preference has been shown to the villagers proposed to be evicted, while making appointments in connexion with the Project; and

(c) if so, the number of villagers appointed?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) 420.

" (b) Only local labourers available have been employed including dispossessed villagers who apply to do work, and still there is dearth of labourers. As regards work-charged posts, merit being the same, preference will be given to dispossessed villagers.

" (c) The information cannot easily be collected."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" May I know how many acres of land lie in the catchment area of this Araniyar project and in which State it lies? Then what is the compensation that has been given to the villagers in the catchment area that have been affected? " 9-40 a.m.

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have no information about the exact area. But I know a portion of it lies in the Andhra State."

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SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is the Hon. the Minister aware of the fact that before the execution of this project was started, a particular rate of compensation was decided upon by the then Government to be paid to the ryots and that that rate has been revised by the present Government after Andhra ryots started an agitation in that area? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have no information. I want notice."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is the Hon. the Minister aware of the fact that in the catchment area the Andhra Government are disturbing the progress of work which will endanger proper supply of water to us which we expect from the project? I understand that they are initiating new schemes of digging channels and diverting water from our catchment area."

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have no information to that effect. They have been objecting to the acquisition of these lands which are in the catchment area. Subsequently now they have agreed to our proposal and we are carrying on the work."

Development works for Tirunelveli taluk.

* 1778 *Q.*—SRI R. S. ARUMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) what were the Development works proposed for Tirunelveli taluk at the meeting of the District Planning Board held on 2nd August 1954 in the Collector's Bungalow, Tirunelveli;

(*b*) why was the proposal for the improvement of the building of Ukkirankottai High School not sanctioned; and

(*c*) why a maternity centre has been sanctioned in Naranammalpuram instead of a maternity ward?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) There was no meeting of the District Planning Board on 2nd August 1954, but the Collector had informal discussions with the local M.L.As. and M.L.Cs. on that date.

" (*b*) Due to lack of sufficient funds and as other smaller works in a number of other villages had also to be taken up, this work was not sanctioned.

" (*c*) A maternity ward could only be attached to a hospital or dispensary. In the absence of such hospital or dispensary in Naranammalpuram village, the opening of a maternity home was sanctioned for the village."

SRI R. S. ARUMUGAM :—" ஆஸ்பத்திரிகள் இல்லாத இடங்களில் மெடர்னிடி வார்டு தேவைப்படாதா? ஆஸ்பத்திரிகள் இருக்கும் இடங்களில்தான் அவைகள் வைக்கவேண்டுமா என்பதை பரிசீலனை செய்து ஆஸ்பத்திரி இல்லாத இடங்களிலும் மெடர்னிட்டி வார்டுகள் ஏன் நியமிக்கக்கூடாது. அந்த இடங்களில் புதிதாக டாக்டர்கள் போடுவதுதானே நர்ரணம்மாள்புரம் சம்பந்தமாக இம்மாதிரி வார்டாக பாவித்து நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கும்படி சர்க்கார் தாக்கீது அனுப்புவார்களா ?"